and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) Cess Act 1985; Tobacco Cess Act 1975; Spices Cess 1986; Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) Act 1972 and Coffee Act 1942. A Bill for amending/repealing these Acts, administered by the Department of Commerce, has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha.

(d) Export promotion is an on-going endeavour of the Government. Recent initiatives to give an added fillip to export growth include enactment of the SEZ Act 2005, setting up of Free Trade Warehousing Zones (FTWZs), giving a major thrust to procedural simplification to reduce transanction costs of exporters and engaging in greater economic cooperation with other countries through regional trade agreements.

Strengthening the power production and its distribution system

†*319 PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by Government for strengthening the system of production of power and its distribution in different States in the country specially in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have formulated any national action plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far with regard to strengthening the production of power and its distribution system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) In order to strengthen the power production from existing thermal power plants in the country; Central Electricity Authority has identified 106 Units of 32 Thermal Stations with a total capacity of about 10,413 MW for Life Extension (LE) work during the 10th Plan. Extension of economical rating life by 15-20 years and increase in generation capacity by more than 300 MW besides the overall

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

improvement in the performance in the Units is identified as potential benefit of the Life Extension programme. Life Extension work in respect of Units has been completed. Also Renovation and Modernization (R&M) work of 57 Units pertaining to 13 Power Plants totaling 14,270 MW have been identified for improvement of their performance.

In addition an action plan has been drawn up to improve the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of 26 Thermal Power Stations operating at a PLF below 60% in the country to the level of national average by partnership in excellence programme.

Under the Hydro Renovation, Modernization and Up-rating (RM&U) programme, during the 10th, Plan, 47 Hydro Electric Power Projects having an installed capacity of 7,449 MW are programmed for completion to accrue benefit of about 1,08 MW. Out of the selected projects, 20 Projects with an expenditure of Rs. 724 Crores and a benefit of 549 MW have been completed.

In the state of Uttar Pradesh Life Extension work has been identified for the Units of Obra, Panki & Harduaganj. The Renovation and Modernization works in the Units 7 and 8 of Bbra and Unit 4 of Panki has been completed. In the Partnership in Excellence Programme apart from Obra, Panki, Harduaganj 'B', Parichha have been included in the programme.

For augmentation of generation capacity against the target of 1,420 MW envisaged during the 10th Plan only 420 MW is likely to be added in the form of Parichha TPP in the State Sector in Uttar Pradesh. In the Central Sector Projects totaling 1,210 MW were envisaged to be set up in Uttar Pradesh during 10th Plan. Out of these, Rihand Stage-II (1000MW) has been commissioned and another 210 MW project in Unchahar is under execution. In addition, Uttar Pradesh also has share from Central Sector projects coming up in the Northern Region.

Strengthening of the distribution segment is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The Central Government is assisting and incentiivising the States to achieve a turn-around in distribution through the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme. This innoative programme has an investment as well as an incentive component.

Under the investment component, so far, 583 projects have been sanctioned at a cost of about Rs. 19,182 Crores. Rs. 5,642 Crores have been released by the Central Government and Rs. 7,918.24 Crores including counterpart funding has been reported to be spent.

Under the incentive component, so far Rs. 1,471.36 Crores have been released as per details given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No	Name of States	Year	Reduction in cash losses	Incentive Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2002-2003	530.22	265.11
2.	Gujarat	2001-02	472.76	236.38
		2002-03	296.16	148.08
3.	Haryana	2001-02	210.98	105.49
		2002-03		
4.	Kerala	2002-03	89.88	64.94
5.	Maharashtra	2001-02	275.78	137.89
			275.42	137.71
6.	Rajasthan	2001-02	146.00	73.00
		2002-03		
7.	West Bengal	2003-04	605.52	302.76
		TOTAL:	2942.72	1471.36

In the APDRP Scheme under the investment component for Uttar Pradesh various projects totaling Rs. 1,091.30 Crore as outlay have been identified. And against the APDRP component of Rs. 545.65 Crores, Rs. 134.52 Crores have been released.

Due to various measures taken to strengthen the power production base and augmentation of the capacity, despite rapid increase in the demand of electricity the peaking shortages declined from 8.2% in the first year of the 10th Plan to 11.7% in 2004-05. During the same period shortages in energy requirement declined from 8.8% to 7.3%. Further as per the study conducted by the Power Finance Corporation the overall commercial losses of the utilities has been reduced from about Rs. 27,000 Crores during 2001-2002 to about Rs. 20,600 Crores in 2003-04.